## JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Circuit Court Judge, At Large, Seat 10

1. Name: Mr. William Patrick Frick

Name that you are known by if different from above: None Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge? No

Business Address: 1

PO Box 181,

Winnsboro, SC, 29180

Telephone Number:

(office): (803) 815-0474

2. Date of Birth:

1975

Place of Birth:

Sumter, SC

- 3. Are you a citizen of South Carolina? Yes
  - Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? Yes
- 5. Family Status: Married on July 5, 2002 to Ruxandra Elena Tudor. Never divorced, one child.
- 6. Have you served in the military? No
- 7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.
  - (a) University of SC BA International Studies 1993-1997;
  - (b) University of SC, School of Law- JD 1997-2000;
  - (c) University of SC School of Business MIBS/IMBA 1998-2001.
- 8. List the states in which you have been admitted to practice law and the year of each admission. Also list any states in which you took the bar exam but were never admitted to the practice of law. If you took the bar exam more than once in any of the states listed, please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state. SC 2001
- 9. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at college, graduate, and law school. Give the dates you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.
  - (a) SC House of Representatives- Page 1994-1999;
  - (b) USC Student Government- Senator 1994-1996 & 1998-2000;
  - (c) USC Debate Team 1994;
  - (d) Model United Nations 1995;
  - (e) Student Legislature 1993-1996;
  - (f) Law School Legislative Council Representative 1997-2000.
- 10. Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years.

Conference/CLE Name		Date(s)
(a)	Annual Public Defender Conference	9/27/10;
(b)	Omnibus Crime Reduction Act CLE	11/22/10;
(c)	Annual Public Defender Conference	9/26/11;
(d)	SCAJ Annual Convention	8/2/12;
(e)	Annual Public Defender Conference	9/24/12;



- (f) SCAJ Annual Convention
- (g) Annual Public Defender Conference

8/1/13; 9/23/13;

(h) SC School Board Assoc. School Law

8/30/14.

- 11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs?
- 12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
- 13. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice.
  - (a) State of SC 2001;

None

- (b) Federal District Court of SC 2003.
- 14. Describe chronologically your legal experience since graduation from law school and include a list of all law firms with which you have been associated. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years.
  - (a) Aiken Public Defender's Office 2001-2002, Assistant Public Defender;
  - (b) Fourth Circuit Solicitor's Office 2002-2003, Assistant Solicitor (Gun Crime Prosecutor & Juvenile Prosecutor);
  - (c) SC Attorney General's Office 2003-2005, Assistant Attorney General for Prosecution & State Grand Jury;
  - (d) Sixth Circuit Solicitor's Office 2005-2006, Assistant Solicitor (Chief Prosecutor for Fairfield County);
  - (e) Law Offices of Koon & Cook 2006-2009, Associate & Winnsboro Office Manager General Practice (Criminal, Personal Injury, Domestic);
  - (f) Sixth Circuit Public Defender's Office 2009-2015, Deputy Public Defender.
- 15. Please answer the following (if you are a judge and <u>are not seeking a different type of judgeship</u>, this question is inapplicable):
  - (b) If you are a candidate for Circuit Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience in criminal matters, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the issues involved. Further, please provide a brief written description of your experience in civil matters, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the types of matters handled, issues involved, and procedural history. Please include information such as the primary areas in civil court in which you practice, whether you represent plaintiffs or defendants, or both. You may go back further than five years if you feel it would assist the Commission with its assessment of your experience. If you lack experience in an area, describe how your background has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Circuit Court Judge, or how you would compensate for your lack of experience in this area.

As a prosecutor in the Fourth and Sixth Circuits, an Assistant Attorney General handling matters throughout the State, a public defender in the Second and Sixth Circuits, and a general practitioner, I have handled almost all criminal offenses from traffic tickets to murder, burglary to animal fighting, and everything in between. While in private practice in Winnsboro, I was responsible for a general practice firm with two attorneys and two paralegals. My focus was on criminal law, personal injury, worker's compensation, social security disability and domestic cases. With this experience, I am fully prepared to handle the broad array of criminal and civil matters that come before the Circuit Court

- 16. What is your rating, if any, by any legal rating organization, such as, <u>Best Lawyers</u>, <u>Chambers</u>, <u>Legal 500</u>, <u>Martindale-Hubbell</u>, <u>Who's Who Legal</u>, <u>Super Lawyers</u>, <u>etc.</u>? If you are currently a member of the judiciary, list your last available rating, if any. I am not rated by any service
- 17. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the past five years?
  - (a) federal: 0%;
  - (b) state: 100%.
- 18. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, domestic, and other matters during the past five years?
  - (a) civil: 0%;
  - (b) criminal: 100%;
  - (c) domestic: 0%;
  - (d) other: 0%.
- 19. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the past five years involved matters that went to a jury, including those that settled prior to trial?
  - (a) jury: 100%;
  - (b) non-jury: 0%.

Did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel in these matters? Sole counsel

- 20. List five of the most significant litigated matters you have personally handled in either trial or appellate court or before a state or federal agency. Give citations if the cases were reported and describe why these matters were significant.
  - (a) State v. James J. Curry (752 S.E.2d 263, 406 S.C. 364 (2013)). I was the defense attorney in this matter where Mr. Curry requested immunity under the provisions 16-11-440(C) of the Protection of Persons & Property Act, commonly referred to as the "Stand Your Ground" law. As this case was argued prior to clarification of the procedure in these matters, it was a very unique situation in which the defense requested and was granted a jury charge on the provisions of the statute. Ultimately, Mr. Curry was convicted of voluntary manslaughter;
  - (b) <u>State v. Bobby Ray Hill</u> (2008-UP-453) I served as the prosecutor in this double homicide. The defendant had a very lengthy history of mental health issues and ultimately pled guilty under the provisions of the Guilty But Mental III statute;
  - (c) <u>State v. Randolph Frazier</u> (715 S.E.2d, 394 S.C. 213 (2011)). I defended Mr. Frazier in this burglary first degree trial in which there were issues regarding the initial seizure and detention of Mr. Frazier as a suspect. Additionally there were issues regarding the show up identification. Mr. Frazier was convicted and sentenced to life due to his criminal record;

- (d) <u>State v. Marico Stevens</u>- I successfully defended Mr. Stevens on the charge of murder in a trial in Lancaster County in which the defendant was charged under the principle of accomplice liability where it was uncertain as to whom fired the fatal shot and from which direction it came;
- (e) <u>State v. Art Parker</u>- I was the prosecutor on this animal fighting case in Chester County in which the defendants were charged under the provisions of this statute for conducting "hog-dog rodeos" which were not specifically prohibited by law. The defendants were found not guilty by the jury, but this ultimately led the passage of a law specifically prohibiting hog dog events in SC.
- 21. List up to five civil appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision, and the citation if the case was reported.

  No appeals handled
- 22. List up to five criminal appeals that you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported.

  No appeals handled
- 23. Have you ever held judicial office? Describe the jurisdiction of each of the courts and note any limitations on the jurisdiction of each court.
- 25. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? Also, state whether or not you have timely filed your report with the State Ethics Commission during the period you held public office.
  - Fairfield County School Board-Representative for District 6 2012-present I was fined for not timely filing my Pre-election report in 2012. I was unopposed and did not raise any funds so I did not believe I needed to file a report. I was incorrect, paid my fine and have filed all subsequent documents in a timely fashion.
- 26. List all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or part-time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor.

  None
- 27. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office?
  - (a) Circuit Court Judge, At-Large 8 2009-Qualified but not nominated
  - (b) Circuit Court Judge, At-Large 9 2010-Qualified but not nominated
  - (c) Sixth Circuit Solicitor 2014-Defeated in the General Election
- 28. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law, teaching of law, or holding judicial or other public office?

  Upon graduation of business school, I was the owner/proprietor of a retail music store specializing in the sale of American roots music in the Five Points area of Columbia. I closed the business when I accepted employment with the Fourth Circuit Solicitor's Office and could no longer stay engaged in the daily operations.
- 29. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? Explain the nature of the business, your duties, and the term of your service. I currently own and operate residential rental properties in Winnsboro.
- 30. A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission.
- 31. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships you have, or have had in the past, that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position you seek. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest.

None

- 32. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation or for suspicion of violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance, or any other law, including another country's law?
- 33. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute?
- 34. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy?

  None
- 35. Have you ever been sued, either personally or professionally, that is, have you ever been named as defendant or respondent in any court of law?

  I am presently a defendant along with the SC Department of Corrections, SC Attorney General's Office, and the Sixth Circuit Solicitor's Office, in a case pending since September 2012 in which the plaintiff, David Ray Tant, whom was convicted of and imprisoned for animal fighting and assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, alleges violations of his civil rights pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Section 1983. In September of 2014 the majority of the claims were dismissed by a US District Court Judge. However, some State law claims were remanded to Circuit Court in Richland County. Recently, the plaintiff was given leave to supplement his complaint and it remains pending with possible removal to Federal Court.
- 37. Have you ever been investigated by the Department of Social Services? Has your name ever been enrolled on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect?
- 38. If you are in private practice, are you covered by malpractice insurance and, if so, how long have you carried malpractice insurance? If applicable, have you ever been covered by a tail policy? If so, please explain when you were covered by a tail policy. Also, if applicable, indicate your coverage and deductible for your current malpractice policy. I am covered by the policy regarding the Sixth Circuit Public Defender's Office
- 39. Are you active on or a member of a social media or Internet site or have you, to your knowledge, been featured or depicted on a social media or Internet site, such as, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.? If so, how would your use of social media or other similar types of Internet sites be affected if you were serving in a judicial capacity? I have Facebook and LinkedIn accounts that I would most probably deactivate upon taking the bench.
- 40. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a "lobbyist," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a "lobbyist's principal," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(14)?

  No
- 41. Since filing with the Commission your letter of intent to run for judicial office, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other thing of value as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(1) from a lobbyist or lobbyist's principal?

  No

42. S.C. Code § 8-13-700 provides, in part, that "[n]o public official, public member, or public employee may knowingly use his official office, membership, or employment to obtain an economic interest for himself, a member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. Include the disposition, if any, of such charges or allegations.

None

43. S.C. Code § 8-13-765 provides, in part, that "[n]o person may use government personnel, equipment, materials, or an office building in an election campaign." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. Include the disposition, if any, of such charges or allegations.

None

44. Itemize (by amount, type, and date) all expenditures, other than those for travel and room and board, made by you, or on your behalf in furtherance of your candidacy for the position you seek.

None

45. List the amount and recipient of all contributions made by you or on your behalf to members of the General Assembly since the announcement of your intent to seek election to a judgeship.

None

46. Have you directly or indirectly requested the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? Have you received the assurance of any public official or public employee that they will seek the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened?

No

47. Have you requested a friend or colleague to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf? Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf?

No

48. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy?

No

49. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate?

No

- 50. List all bar associations and professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices you have held in such groups.
  - (a) SC Bar;
  - (b) Fairfield County Bar- Secretary/Treasurer;
  - (c) SC Criminal Defense Attorneys Association.
- 51. List all civic, charitable, educational, social, and fraternal organizations of which you are or have been a member during the past five years and include any offices held in such a group,

any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere.

- (a) Winnsboro Rotary Club President & Board of Directors;
- (b) Fairfield Behavioral Health Services Chairman of Board of Directors;
- (c) First Steps of Fairfield County Chairman of Board of Directors;
- (d) Richard Winn Academy Board of Directors;
- (e) Believers & Achievers of Fairfield County.
- 52. Provide any other information that may reflect positively or negatively on your candidacy, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for nomination for the position you seek.

It takes longer for criminal cases to get into court in the Sixth Circuit than any other circuit in the State. On the civil side, the situation is better, but not markedly so, with the Sixth Circuit having the fourth worst percentage of cases pending the longest. There is only one judge for the Sixth Circuit. This judge faces the worst criminal backlog in the State with just under five thousand pending warrants and sixty one percent of those criminal cases are over eighteen months old. On the civil side there are over one thousand pending actions. According to Court Administration data from the end of June 2015, this one judge has a total of five thousand eight hundred eighty nine combined criminal and civil matters pending, the most per capita for any judge in any circuit in the State. Simply put, we need another judge in the Sixth Circuit.

- 53. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five persons, including your banker, from whom references could be obtained.
  - (a) Susan Taylor 801 US 321 By Pass South, Winnsboro, SC 29180 (803) 635-5589
  - (b) DeWayne Pearson 3617 Carriage House Rd, Columbia, SC 29206 (803) 569-7239
  - (c) Douglas Barfield PO Box 55, Kershaw, SC 29067 (803) 416-3030
  - (d) Vernon Kennedy 200 Calhoun St., Winnsboro, SC 29180 (803) 635-2335
  - (e) Robert FitzSimons 1001 Beltline Blvd, Columbia, SC 29205 (803) 815-4075
- 54. Describe any interest you or a member of your immediate family has in real property:
  - (a) in which there is a potential conflict of interest with your involvement in a South Carolina state or local public agency;

- (b) in which there have been public improvements of \$200 or that adjoins property in which there have been public improvements of \$200; or
- (c) which was sold, leased, or rented to a state or local public agency in South Carolina. List the interest you hold and the value and location of the property. Identify as applicable the:
- (a) nature of any potential conflict of interest;
- (b) nature and value of any public improvements; and
- (c) South Carolina state or local public agency which purchased or is leasing or renting such property.

None

55. Identify any personal property interest you or a member of your immediate family sold, leased, or rented to a South Carolina state or local public agency. Identify the property, its amount or value, and the name of the agency.

None

YOUR SIGNATURE WILL BE HELD TO CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ANY PROCEEDING BEFORE A GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE OR ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR CREDIT.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT MY ANSWERS ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature: s/William Patrick Frick

Date: August 5, 2015